

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00127 171231Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 22
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 0127

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PINT IS EG JO XF
SUBJ: STATEMENT BY WEST BANK MAYORS ON OCCASION OF POLITICAL
COMMITTEE MEETING

1. ON EVE OF FIRST MEETING OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE
IN JERUSALEM, WEST BANK MAYORS HAVE ISSUED JANUARY 16
BRIEF STATEMENT WHICH APPEARED IN EAST JERUSALEM DAILY
"ASHAB" DECLARING THAT PLO IS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE
OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND THAT BASIS OF JUST PEACE
IS RECOGNITION OF PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION,
ESTABLISHMENT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND REMOVAL OF SETTLEMENTS.
FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: "ON THE OCCASION OF THE MEETINGS OF THE
POLITICAL COMMITTEE FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND
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PAGE 02 JERUSA 00127 171231Z

ISRAEL AND WHAT WAS DECLARED THAT THIS COMMITTEE WILL
DISCUSS, THE PALESTINIAN CASE, WE WANT TO EMPHASIZE THE
FOLLOWING:

2. "(1) THE ONLY BODY AUTHORIZED TO REPRESENT THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THEIR
CASE IS THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. NO

OTHER BODY IS AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS THE CASE OR DEAL WITH IT, OR TO TRY TO KEEP AWAY THE PLO.

3. "(2) THE BASIS OF A JUST PEACE IN THE AREA IS THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE, AND COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL ARAB OCCUPIED LANDS. ALSO THE ELIMINATION OF ALL THE EFFECTS AND TRACES OF ISRAELI OCCUPATION.

4. "(3) ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE, ANY SOLUTION IGNORING OR CONTRADICTING THE ABOVE TWO PRINCIPLES WILL NOT ATTAIN A REAL PEACE AND WILL NOT KEEP AWAY THE SHADOW OF WAR FROM THE AREA." END TEXT.

5. SIGNED: THE MUFTI OF JERUSALEM; MUNICIPALITIES OF NABLUS, TULKARM, RAMALLAH, BIREH, HEBRON, BETHLEHEM, BEIT JALA, BEIT SAHOUR, HALBUL, SALFIT, DURA, BANI ZEID, BITUNIA, SILMAD, QALQILYA, ANABTA, JENIN, JERICHO, ARRABA, QABATIA, BIR ZEIT; HEAD OF THE ENGINEERS UNION; LAWYERS UNION; DOCTORS' UNION; DENTISTS' UNION; DIRECTOR OF THE ARAB JERUSALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; THE KHATEEB OF EL AQSA; SAID ALA'EDDIN, MEMBER OF THE JORDANIAN UPPER CHAMBER; THE JORDANIAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY IN THE WEST BANK; THE LABOR UNION IN BETHLEHEM; DOCTOR AMEEN KHATEEB; JUDGE TAYSEER KANAAN; LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 JERUSA 00127 171231Z

UNION OF SHOEMAKERS; GENERAL INSTITUTIONS UNION IN TULKARM; JENIN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION AND OTHERS.

6. COMMENT: STATEMENT IS BRIEF, TO THE POINT OF BEING TACITURN AND IS DEVOID OF ANY POLEMICS OR COMMENTS ON SADAT, ISRAELIS, OR U.S. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS A TOUGH AND UNCOMPROMISING RESTATEMENT OF WEST BANK CONSENSUS POSITION. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT MAYORS OF ALL MAJOR TOWNS SIGNED UP, INCLUDING MODERATES SUCH AS FREIJ OF BETHLEHEM. HENCE, BEGIN'S WEST BANK PLAN HAS CONSOLIDATED BROAD SPECTRUM OF WEST BANK PALESTINIANS IN OPPOSITION. NEWLIN

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